

## Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 BIB-01 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 /061 W  
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P R 051625Z FEB 76

FM AMCONSUL MUNICH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6669

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINA, PINT, PFOR, CZ, GW

SUBJECT: RADIO FREE EUROPE: MINARIK CASE

1. IN HIS LATEST APPEARANCE ON CZECHOSLOVAK TV (EVENING OF FEBRUARY 4), MINARIK REPORTEDLY DISPLAYED COPIES OF LETTERS AND "SAMIZDAT" DOCUMENTS ORIGINATING IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA WHICH HE CLAIMS HE HAD OBTAINED AT RFE. MINARIK ALLEGED THAT THESE DOCUMENTS PROVED, INTER ALIA, THAT RFE MAINTAINED DIRECT CONTACT WITH FORMER KSC GENERAL SECRETARY DUBCEK, WHO WAS SAID TO RECEIVE PAYMENTS FROM RFE, AS WELL AS AUTHORS OF THESE "SAMIZDAT" PUBLICATIONS.

2. RFE HAS PREPARED FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE IN LIGHT OF THESE ALLEGATIONS BY MINARIK. BEGIN TEXT: "PEOPLE IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA AS WELL AS IN OTHER COUNTRIES OF THE WARSAW PACT, WHERE THERE EXISTS NO FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OR REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT, OCCASIONALLY WRITE  
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LETTERS TO THEIR GOVERNMENTS IN THE FAINT HOPE THAT

SUCH EXPRESSIONS MIGHT INFLUENCE THE RESPONSIBLE OFFICIALS OR AT LEAST GIVE THEM SOME KIND OF AN IDEA WHAT THE PEOPLE ARE REALLY THINKING. WHETHER OR NOT THESE LETTERS HAVE ANY EFFECT CANNOT BE MEASURED. SUCH COMMUNICATIONS, IF DISTRIBUTED ON A SOMEWHAT REGULAR BASIS, HAVE BECOME KNOWN IN THE WEST AND IN THE EAST AS SAMIZDAT, A RUSSIAN TERM MEANING SELF-PUBLICATION.

"TO GIVE IT ADDITIONAL IMPACT, THESE SAMIZDAT COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS ARE FROM TIME TO TIME SENT TO THE WEST OR GIVEN TO REPRESENTATIVES OF WESTERN DEMOCRATIC COUNTRIES IN ORDER TO GIVE THEM GREATER PUBLICITY AND TO MAKE KNOWN THE TRUE FEELINGS OF INDIVIDUAL CITIZENS AND GROUPS WITHIN THOSE COUNTRIES WHERE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION IS SUPPRESSED.

"BY THIS PROCESS, RFE, AS WELL AS OTHER WESTERN NEWS MEDIA, HAVE OVER THE YEARS COME INTO THE POSSESSION OF MULTIPLICITY OF SUCH COMMENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FROM THE COUNTRIES OF THE WARSAW PACT. IN THE CASE OF RADIO FREE EUROPE, THEY WERE BROADCAST ONLY IF OTHER WESTERN MEDIA HAD ALREADY DISSEMINATED THEM AND THEY HAVE THUS BECOME A NEWS ITEM IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN OF INTEREST TO A LARGE AUDIENCE IN THE WEST. IF RFE THEREFORE WITH REFERENCE TO SUCH STORIES BROADCAST THESE SAMIZDAT PUBLICATIONS, HAVING AS CAREFULLY AS POSSIBLE CHECKED INTO THEIR AUTHENTICITY, IT THEM OCCASIONALLY PAID AN APPROPRIATE FEE TO THE INDIVIDUAL IN THE WEST HAVING POSSESSION OF THE MANUSCRIPT, AS IS CUSTOMARY ON SUCH OCCASIONS. PAYEES ARE RESIDENTS OF WESTERN COUNTRIES AND THE MONEY IS DISBURSED IN ACCORDANCE WITH NORMAL PROCEDURE.

"NO CONTACTS HAVE EVER BEEN MADE WITH WRITERS OR AUTHORS OF SUCH SAMIZDAT MATERIAL IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA."  
END TEXT.  
PETERSON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INSTRUCTIONS, CORRUPTION, TELEVISION BROADCASTING, THE PRESS, ALLEGATIONS, JOURNALISTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 FEB 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Office:** ACTION EUR  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** morefirh  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
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**Review Date:** 12 APR 2004  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** RADIO FREE EUROPE: MINARIK CASE  
**TAGS:** PINR, PINT, PFOR, CZ, GE, RFE, (MINARIK)  
**To:** STATE PRAGUE  
**Type:** TE  
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